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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **EXAMINING GROUP 2621**

Docket No.: 826.1605

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroaki Takebe et al.

Serial No. 09/577,340

Confirmation No. 5834

Filed: May 24, 2000

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

For:

Group Art Unit: 2621

Examiner: Tom Y Lu

PATTERN SEGMENTATION APPARATUS AND PATTERN RECOGNITION **APPARATUS**

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

MAY 0 4 2004

Technology Center 2600

Attention: BOX AF

PO Box 1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 29, 2004, and having a period for response set to expire on April 29, 2004.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

4/30/2004 BDIRETA1 0000084 09577340